

**In the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 9 with the following:

The structure of ordinary cylindrical locksets of the prior art is illustrated in FIG. 1, roughly comprising an inside and outside ~~handles~~ **handles** A, B and a case set E. Each of the inside and outside handles A, B is connected to one end of an inner and outer driving tube C, D, respectively. The case set E contains therein a spring mechanism F which can be driven by ends C', D' opposite to the inner and outer driving tubes C, D so as to operate the latch installed onto the door. The inside of the outer driving tube D bears a lockset which can be operated by a key. The operation of the lockset by the key can drive a key driven tube inside the outer driving tube D. The key driven tube comprises a driving wing G. The rotation of the driving wing G drives a pull-retract mechanism F to prompt the latch installed onto the door.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 1 with the following:

To achieve the above objective, this invention discloses a lock engaging-and-disengaging mechanism, comprising:

a driving tube shaped into a hollow tubular body, said driving tube comprising a first end and a second end, wherein said first end is installed to the inside of the locking mechanism and said second end is connected to a handle or a connecting element or the like of a handle, said driving tube further comprising at least one tapering hole (or recess/indent) on the inner wall of said driving tube;

a key driven tube shaped into a hollow tubular body, said key driven tube being flexibly installed to an inner tube portion of the first end of said driving tube, wherein a wall of said key driven tube is formed with at least one hole in alignment with the tapering hole on the inner wall of said driving tube;

a sideways component, which is installed in said at least one hole of said key driven tube and either engaged or disengaged with the tapering hole or recess of said driving tube;

an axially sliding component for insertion into the key driven tube, said axially sliding component comprising a first end, a second end, and a non-axial slot (or an inclining slot) between said first end and said second end;

a rotatable component for insertion into said axially sliding component, said rotatable component comprising a first end, a second end, and a pin between said first end and said second end, wherein said pin extends into the non-axial slot of said axially sliding component;

whereby the rotation of said rotatable component enables the pin of said axially sliding component to co-work with the non-axial slot of said axially sliding component, such that the axially sliding component can shift axially between the first position and the second position; and that

when said axially sliding component is moved to the first position, said at least **one** hole of said key driven tube corresponds to said at least one tapering hole of said driving tube, and that

when said sideways component is placed at the first end near said axially sliding component to allow said driving tube to rotate with respect to said key driven tube, said sideways component is disengaged from the tapering holes of said driving tube and thereby the key driven tube is disengaged from said driving tube; and

when said axially sliding component is located at the second position, said sideways component is engaged with the holes of said key driven tube and the tapering holes of said driving tube, and is **abutted** against the outer rim of the first end of said axially sliding component, this allowing said key driven tube to be engaged with